

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 10 are now pending in this application. The Applicant has amended claim 1. The Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully provides the following remarks for consideration and requests the allowance of claims 1-7 and 10 in view of the remarks..

A. Rejection under 35 USC §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by Knapp et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,826,072.

Claim 1, as amended, now recites that the controller is arranged with an event control unit includes a package controller, a buffer register operable to store operands of a pulse package associated with a current operation code and an active register operable to store the operands of a pulse package associated with the previous operation code wherein the package controller controls the transfer of operands to the buffer register and from the buffer register to the active buffer.

The present invention allows for the selection of what input signal will trigger the initiation or resumption of processing by the event control unit. The input signal is associated with operands that initiate or resume execution of the event control unit as well as specifies a time constraint, which is an interval that can elapse between the occurrence of the event and access to storage for extracting and storing data.

The examiner claims that Knapp (US 5 826 072) teaches the claimed invention. Knapp merely discloses conventional interrupt functionality. Knapp discloses a control unit 80 configured to fetch instructions from instruction memory 82. See col. 5, lines 56-58. Knapp discloses that

interrupt control logic is included in control unit 80. See col. 5, lines 60-64. Knapp further discloses that an interrupt, which occurs when an interrupt signal is activated by an external device, causes instructions within memory to be executed. See col. 5, line 64-col. 6, line 5. Firstly, the interrupt control logic of Knapp is not initiated by the control unit 80 or in response to the processing of instructions (i.e., operation codes) from instruction memory 82 by the control unit 80. The interrupt logic unit is initiated by a signal that originates external to the control unit. The interrupt logic then executes instructions stored at a specific address that are associated with the interrupt signal that originated external to the control unit. See col. 6, line 5. The instructions stored at the specific address are not the instructions that were fetched and executed by the control unit. Additionally, Knapp fails to teach or suggest the newly recited limitation of an event control unit includes a package controller, a buffer register operable to store operands of a pulse package associated with a current operation code and an active register operable to store the operands of a pulse package associated with the previous operation code wherein the package controller controls the transfer of operands to the buffer register and from the buffer register to the active buffer. Accordingly, Knapp fails to teach or suggest the invention claimed in claim 1.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1. Claims 2-7 are not taught for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

B. Rejection under 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 USC §103 as being anticipated by Knapp et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,826,072 in view of Moorer U.S. Patent No. 4,497,023 and in further view of Patterson et al..

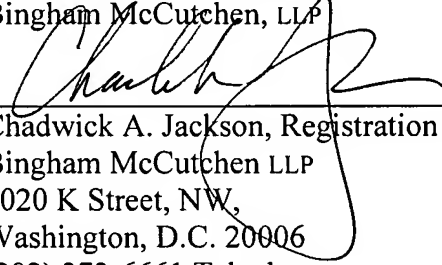
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Attorney Docket No. 25880.0067 (formerly 19391.0054)

As discussed above Knapp fails to teach the invention of claim 1. Peterson and Moorner each fails to cure the deficiencies of Knapp. Accordingly, the combination of Knapp, Peterson and Moorner fails to teach or suggest the invention of claim 1 and thus does not teach or suggest the invention of claim 10, which depends from claim 1.

CONCLUSION

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the present amendments still do not resolve all of the issues regarding patentability of the pending claims, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorneys to discuss any remaining issues.. No other fees are believed to be due at this time. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Bingham McCutchen, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-4047, Order No. 25880.0067.

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